Mississippi Development Authority P.O. Box 849 Jackson, MS 39205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Date: April 9, 2001

CITY OF WIGGINS AWARDED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT

JACKSON, Miss. – The city of Wiggins was recently awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$405,914 for Economic Development Public Improvements. The application was submitted on behalf of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

The funds will be utilized for infrastructure improvements to serve a new Wal-Mart Supercenter project on U.S. Highway 49. Wal-Mart is investing \$3.5 million in building and equipment. The City of Wiggins is contributing \$47,338, which will be combined with the CDBG funds to construct an access road and provide water and sewer improvements.

The Supercenter will create 125 full-time or full-time equivalent jobs. At least 51% of those new jobs will be made available to low- to moderate-income persons.

"The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) is proud that our partnership at the local level creates a foundation for economic growth," commented J.C. Burns, Executive Director of MDA.

CDBG is a program of the Community Services Division of the Mississippi Development Authority. Among the division's goals are assisting communities in analyzing their strengths and weaknesses, involving their leadership in economic development, planning development strategies, strengthening development organizations, and implementing and financing community projects. The Community Services Division also administers other community development grant and loan programs.

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